

THIS IS THE <u>BEGINN</u>	IING OF ADMII	NISTRATIVE FINE CASE # <u>2545</u>
DATE SCANNED	5/3/13	
SCANNER NO.		
SCAN OPERATOR	557	



RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT

2012 SEP | | PM |: 12

September 11, 2012

# **MEMORANDUM**

SENSITIVE

TO:

The Commission

THROUGH:

Alec Palmer Staff Director

FROM:

Patricia C. Orrock

**Chief Compliance Officer** 

Debbie Chacona C Assistant Staff Director Reports Analysis Division

BY:

Jodi Winship/Sari Pickerall

Compliance Branch

SUBJECT:

Reason To Believe Recommendation – 2012 July Quarterly Report for the

Administrative Fine Program

Attached is a list of political committees and their treasurers who failed to file the 2012 July Quarterly Report in accordance with 2 U.S.C. 434(a). The 2012 July Quarterly Report was due on July 15, 2012.

The committees listed in the attached RTB Circulation Report either failed to file the report,

no more than thirty (30) days after the due date (considered a late filed report), or filed the report more than thirty (30) days after the due date (considered a non-filed report). In accordance with the schedule of civil money penalties for reports at 11 CFR 111.43, these committees should be assessed the civil money penalties highlighted on the attached circulation report.

# Recommendation

- 1. Find reason to believe that the political committees and their treasurers listed on the RTB Circulation Report violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalties would be the amounts indicated on the RTB Circulation Report.
- 2. Send the appropriate letters.

# Federal Election Commission Reason to Believe Circulation Report 2012 JULY QUARTERLY Not Election Sensitive 07/15/2012 H\_S\_P\_UNAUTH

AF#	Committee ID	Committee Name	Candidate Name	Treasurer	Threshold	P	PV Receipt Date Days Late	Days Late	FOA	RTB Penalty
2538	C005	BICKNELL FOR CONGRESS	BICKNELL, HUNTER	JAMES R. SHAW, JR.	\$121,335	0	8/3/2012	19	\$34,201	\$580
2539	C00020453	CASS COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE		TONY P. KEY	\$100,231	1	8/9/2012	25	\$8,064	\$225
2540	2540 C00511311	DAVE SITTON FOR CONGRESS	SITTON, DAVE	DAVID KATSEL	\$403,582	0		Not Filed	\$403,582 (est)	006'6\$
2541	C00500173	DAVID MCINTOSH FOR INDIANA	MCINTOSH, DAVID MARTIN	JACKIE M. BENNETT, JR.	\$1,733,077	0	7/31/2012	16	\$575,917	\$6,500
2542	C00501072	DEAN YOUNG FOR	YOUNG, LARRY DEAN JR	HUGH R. PARDUE	\$468,916	0		Not Filed	\$117,229 (est)	\$4,950
2543	2543 C00505628	FRIENDS OF CHRIS GARNER	GARNER, CHRISTOPHER JOHN	BARBARA S. SMALL	\$120,085	0		Not Filed	\$120,085 (est)	\$4,950
2544	C00495119	FRIENDS OF HEATHER MCTEER	MCTEER, HEATHER	MERCIDEES MCTEER	\$671,360	0		Not Filed	\$134,272 (est)	\$4,950
2545	C00505685	GARY SMITH FOR CONGRESS	SMITH, GARY	GARY SMITH	\$455,677	0		Not Filed	\$227,839 (est)	\$7,150

				·		
\$3,850	066\$	\$2,970	\$8,937	\$550	\$680	\$250
\$82,058 (est)	\$46,103 (est)	\$52,113 (est)	\$224,599 (est)	\$14,149	\$33,826	\$15,813
Not Filed	Not Filed	Not Filed	Not Filed	Not Filed	24	60
				8/23/2012	8/8/2012	8/2/2012
0	0	0	1	0	0	-
\$328,232	\$138,309	\$156,338	\$673,796	\$103,032	\$154,216	\$109,945
GAIL A. CHINN-	RYANN PATRICK-SHELL JUDEN	ESQUE SANDERS, JR.	JULIEN MODICA	ALVIN FELICIANO	ROBERT L. REDDING, JR.	MARK R. PERMAR
MOORE, JIMMIE SEE	LEE, JOHN JAY	SANDERS, KENNETH	MODICA, JULIEN			
JIMMIE MOORE FOR CONGRESS	JOHN LEE FOR CONGRESS	KENNETH SANDERS FOR CONGRESS CAMPAIGN	MODICA FOR SENATE	NAADAC THE ASSOCIATION FOR ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FARM SERVICE AGENCY COUNTY OFFICE EMPLOYEES INC PPC AKA NASCOF PAC	PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL UNION 74
2547   C00497644	2548   C00500827	2549 C00514489	2550 C00494187	2551 C00293100	2552 C00413567	2553 C00192849
2547	2548	2549	2550	2551	2552	2553

•	\$3,850	\$4,455
	*	<b>3</b>
	\$75,185	\$54,655 (est)
	Not Filed	Not Filed
	8/28/2012	
	0	2
-	\$154,435	\$273,273
	MICHAEL D. EDMONDS	BOB BEERS
		LOWDEN, SUE
•	STRONG UTAH PAC	SUE LOWDEN FOR U S SENATE
	2555 C00503078	2556 C00467761
	2555	2556

AF#	AF# Committee ID	Committee Name	Candidate Name	Treasurer	Threshold	2	Threshold PV Receipt Date Days Late	Days Late	TOA	RTB Penalty
2557	2557 C00507772	SYLVIA ROMO FOR CONGRESS	ROMO, SYLVIA S	LARRY BENSON \$108,265	\$108,265	0		Not Filed	\$54,133 (est)	\$2,970
2558	2558 C00503342	CONGRESS COMMITTEE	ENGEL, TOM	RICHARD	\$385,678	0		Not Filed	\$192,839 (est)	\$6,050
2559	2559 C00466011	TRUST WOMEN PAC		TIFFANY REYNOLDS- RICHARDSON	\$175,617	0		Not Filed	\$35, 123 (est)	\$990
2560	2560 C00430686	WEBB FOR SENATE	WEBB, JAMES H JR	INGRID	\$257,207	0		Not Filed	\$51,441 (est)	\$2,970
2561	2561 C00509778	WIELAND 2012	WIELAND, RICHARD E	ROBERT W. MERKLE	\$569,527	0		Not Filed	\$569,527 (est)	\$11,000

# BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of	)
Reason To Believe Recommendation - 2012	Ś
July Quarterly Report for the	<b>,</b>
Administrative Fine Program:	Ś
BICKNELL FOR CONGRESS, and	) AF# 2538
JAMES R SHAW JR as treasurer;	)
CASS COUNTY REPUBLICAN	) AF# 2539
CENTRAL COMMITTEE, and TONY P	)
KEY as treasurer;	Ś
DAVE SITTON FOR CONGRESS, and	) AF# 2540
DAVID KATSEL as treasurer;	j
DAVID MCINTOSH FOR INDIANA, and	) AF# 2541
JACKIE M BENNETT JR as treasurer;	j
DEAN YOUNG FOR CONGRESS	) AF# 2542
COMMITTEE, and HUGH R PARDUE as	j
treasurer;	j
FRIENDS OF CHRIS GARNER, and	) AF# 2543
BARBARA S SMALL as treasurer;	j
FRIENDS OF HEATHER MCTEER, and	) AF# 2544
MERCIDEES MCTEER as treasurer;	)
GARY SMITH FOR CONGRESS, and	) AF# 2545
GARY SMITH as treasurer;	)
·	•
JIMMIE MOORE FOR CONGRESS, and	) AF# 2547
CHINN-PRATT, GAIL A. as treasurer;	)
JOHN LEE FOR CONGRESS, and	) AF# 2548
JUDEN, RYANN PATRICK-SHELL as	)
treasurer;	)
KENNETH SANDERS FOR CONGRESS	) AF# 2549
CAMPAIGN, and ESQUE SANDERS JR	)
as treasurer;	)
MODICA FOR SENATE, and JULIEN	) AF# 2550
MODICA as treasurer;	)
NAADAC THE ASSOCIATION FOR	) AF# 2551
ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS, and	)
ALVIN FELICIANO as treasurer;	)

September 12, 2012		
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FARM	)	AF# 2552
SERVICE AGENCY COUNTY OFFICE	)	
EMPLOYEES INC PPC AKA NASCOE	)	
PAC, and ROBBRT L REDDING JR as	)	
treamirer;	)	
PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL	)	AF# 2553
UNION 74, and MR MARK R PERMAR as	)	
treasurer;	)	
STRONG UTAH PAC, and MICHAEL D	`	AF# 2555
EDMONDS as treasurer;		AC# 2333
SUE LOWDEN FOR U S SENATE, and	`	AF# 2556
BOB BEERS as treasurer:	΄	111 fr 2550
SYLVIA ROMO FOR CONGRESS, and	1	AF# 2557
LARRY BENSON as treasurer;	í	
TOM ENGEL FOR CONGRESS	Ś	AF# 2558
COMMITTEE, and VACCARIELLO,	í	
RICHARD MR. as treasurer;	)	
TRUST WOMEN PAC, and REYNOLDS-	)	AF# 2559
RICHARDSON, TIFFANY as treasurer;	)	
WEBB FOR SENATE, and INGRID	)	AF# 2560
MORROY as treasurer;	)	
WIELAND 2012, and ROBERT W	)	AF# 2561
MERKLE as treasurer;	)	

# **CERTIFICATION**

I, Shelley E. Garr, Deputy Secretary of the Federal Election Commission, do hereby certify that on September 12, 2012 the Commission took the following actions on the Reason To Believe Recommendation - 2012 July Quarterly Report for the Administrative Fine Program as recommended in the Reports Analysis Division's Memorandum dated September 11, 2012, on the following committees:

AF#2538 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that BICKNELL FOR CONGRESS, and JAMES R SHAW JR as treasurer violated 2 U.B.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2539 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that CASS COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE, and TONY P KEY as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Peterson, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the docinien.

AF#2540 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that DAVE SITTON FOR CONGRESS, and DAVID KATSEL as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2541 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that DAVID MCINTOSH FOR INDIANA, and JACKIE M BENNETT JR as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Continuous Bauerly, Hunter, McGalan II, Petersen, Walther, and Wnintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2542 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that DEAN YOUNG FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE, and HUGH R PARDUE as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weinbaub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2543 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that FRIENDS OF CHRIS GARNER, and BARBARA S SMALL as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2544 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that FRIENDS OF HEATHER MCTEER, and MERCIDEES MCTEER as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil namey penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Federal Election Commission Certification for Administrative Fines September 12, 2012

AF#2545 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that GARY SMITH FOR CONGRESS, and GARY SMITH as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil mnney penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2547 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that JIMMIE MOORE FOR CONGRESS, and CHINN-PRATT, GAIL A. as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2548 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that JOHN LEE FOR CONGRESS, and JUDEN, RYANN PATRICK-SHELL as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated un the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2549 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that KENNETH SANDERS FOR CONGRESS CAMPAIGN, and ESQUE SANDERS JR as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walthar, and Weintmub voted affilmatively for the decision.

AF#2550 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that MODICA FQR SENATE, and JULIEN MODICA as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2551 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that NAADAC THE ASSOCIATION FOR ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS, and ALVIN FELICIANO as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate

Federal Election Commission Certification for Administrative Fines September 12, 2012

letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted uffirmatively for the decision.

AF#2552 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FARM SERVICE AGENCY COUNTY OFFICE EMPLOYEES INC PPC AKA NASCOE PAC, and ROBERT L REDDING JR as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2553 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL UNION 74, and MR MARK R PERMAR as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the oivil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2555 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that STRONG UTAH PAC, and MICHAEL D EDMONDS as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2556 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that SUE LOWDEN FOR U S SENATE, and BOB BERRS as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2557 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that SYLVIA ROMO FOR CONGRESS, and LARRY BENSON as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Federal Election Commission Certification for Administrative Fines September 12, 2012

violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) scand the appropriate letter. Commissioners Banarly, Hunter, McGahn H, Peterson, Walther, and Weintmub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2559 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that TRUST WOMEN PAC, and REYNOLDS-RICHARDSON, TIFFANY as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2560 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that WEBB FOR SENATE, and INGRID MORROY as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2561 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that WIELAND 2012, and ROBERT W MERKLE as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate lutter. Commissioners Bauurly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Attest:

September 13, 202

Deputy Secretary of the Commission



# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

September 13, 2012

Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer Gary Smith for Congress P.O. Box 36287 Albuquerque, NM 87176

C00505685 AF#: 2545

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), requires that your committee file a July Quarterly Report of Receipts and Disbursements every calendar year. This report, covering the period through June 30th, shall be filed no later than July 15th. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a). Records at the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") indicate that this report was not filed within thirty (30) days of the due date. You should file this report if you have not already done so.

The Act permits the FEC to impose civil money penelties for violations of the reporting requirements of 2 U.S.C. § 434(a). 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4). On September 12, 2012, the FEC found that there is reason to believe ("RTB") that Gary Smith for Congress and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) by failing to file timely this report on or before July 15th. Based on the FEC's schedules of civil money penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage is \$7,150. Please see the attached copy of the Commission's administrative fine regulations at 11 CFR §§ 111.30-111.55. Attachment 1. The Commission's website contains further information about how the administrative fine program works and how the fines are calculated. See <a href="http://www.fec.gov/af/af.shtml">http://www.fec.gov/af/af.shtml</a>. 11 CFR § 111.34. Your payment of \$7,150 is due within forty (40) days of the finding, or by October 22, 2012, and is besed on these factors:

Sensitivity of Report: Not Election Sensitive

Level of Activity: \$227,839 Number of Days Late: Not Filed

Number of Previous Civil Money Penalties Assessed: 0

At this juncture, the following courses of action are available to you:

1. If You Choose to Challenge the RTB Finding and/or Civil Money Penalty

If you should decide to challenge the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty, you must submit a written response, including the AF# found at the top of page 1 under your committee's identification number, to the FEC's Office of Administrative Review, 999 E Street,

NW, Washington, DC 20463. Your response must be received within forty (40) days of the Commission's RTB finding, or October 22, 2012. 11 CFR § 111.35(a). Your written response must include the reason(s) why you are challenging the RTB finding and/or valculated civil money pennity, and must include the factual basis supporting the reason(s) and supporting documentation. The FEC strongly encourages that documents be submitted in the form of affidavits or declarations. 11 CFR § 111.36(c).

The FEC will only consider challenges that are based on at least one of three grounds: (1) a factual error in the RTB finding; (2) miscalculation of the calculated civil money penalty by the FEC; or (3) your demonstrated use of best efforts to file in a timely manner when prevented from doing so by reasonably unforeseen circumstances that were beyond your control. 11 CFR § 111.35(b). In order for a challenge to be considered on the basis of best efforts, you must have filed the required report no later than 24 hours after the end of these reasonably unforescen circumstances. Id. Examples of cinnunstances that will be considered reasonably unforesean and beyond your control include, but are not limited to, (1) a failure of Commission computers or Commission-provided software despite your seeking technical assistance from Commission personnel and resources; (2) a widespread disruption of information transmissions over the Internet that is not caused by a failure of the Commission's or your computer systems or Internet service provider; and (3) severe weather or other disaster-related incident. 11 CFR § 111.35(c). Examples of circumstances that will not be considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to, (1) negligence; (2) delays caused by vendors or contractors; (3) treasurer and staff illness, inexperience or unavailability; (4) committee computer, software, or Inturnet service provider failures; (5) failure to know filing datus; anti (6) failure to use filing software properly. 11 CFR § 111.35(d).

The "failure to raise an argument in a timely fashion during the administrative process shall be deemed a waiver" of your right to present such argument in a petition to the U.S. district court under 2 U.S.C. § 437g. 11 CFR § 111.38.

If you intend to be represented by counsel, please advise the Office of Administrative Review. You should provide, in writing, the name, address and telephone number of your counsel and authorize counsel to receive notifications and communications relating to this challenge and imposition of the calculated civil money penalty.

# 2. If You Choose Not to Pay the Civil Meney Penalty and Not to Suhmit a Challenge

If you do not pay the calculated civil money penalty and do not submit a written response, the FEC will assume that the preceding factual allegations are true and make a final determination that Gary Smith for Congress and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and assess a civil money penalty.

Unpaid civil money penalties assessed through the Administrative Fine regulations will be subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 ("DCA"), as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, 31 U.S.C. § 3701 as seq. The FEC may take any and all appropriate action authorized and required by the DCA, as amended, including transfer to the U.S. Department of the Treasury for collection. 11 CFR § 111.51(a)(2).

3. If You Choose to Pay the Civil Money Penalty

If you should decide to pay the calculated civil money penalty, send the enclosed remittance form, along with your payment, to the FEC at the address on page 4. Upon receipt of your payment, the FEC will send you a final determination letter.

This matter was generated based on information ascertained by the FEC in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2). It will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A) until it is placed on the public record in accordance with 11 CFR § 111.42, unless you notify the FEC in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

As noted earlier, you may obtain additional information on the FEC's administrative fine program, including the final regulations, on the FEC's website at <a href="http://www.fec.gov/af/af.shtml">http://www.fec.gov/af/af.shtml</a>. If you have quertions regarding the payment of the calculated civil money penalty, please contact Sari Pickerall in the Reports Analysis Division at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5) or (202) 694-1130. If you have questions regarding the submission of a challenge, please contact the Office of Administrative Review at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (press 0, then ext. 1660) or (202) 694-1660.

On behalf of the Commission,

Caroni C. Hunter

Caroline C. Hunter

Chair

# ADMINISTRATIVE FINE REMITTANCE & PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

In accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at RTB is \$7,150 for the 2012 July Quarterly Report.

Please mail this remittance with a check or money order made payable to the Federal Election Commission to the following address:

Federal Election Commission P.O. Box 979058 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If you choose to send your remittance and payment by courier or overnight delivery, please use this address:

U.S. Bank - Government Lockbox FEC #979058 1005 Convention Plaza Attn: Government Lockbox, SL-MO-C2GL St. Louis, MO 63101

The remittance and your payment are due by October 22, 2012. Upon receipt of your remittance and payment, the FEC will send you a final determination letter.

# PAYMENTS BY PERSONAL CHECK

Personal checks will be converted into electronic funds transfers (EFTS). Your account will be electronically debited for the amount on your check, usually within 24 hours, and the debit will appear on your regular statement. We will destroy your original check and keep a copy of it. In case the EFT cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in lieu of the original check. Should the EFT not be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer twice.

# PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THE PORTION BELOW WITH YOUR PAYMENT

FOR: Gary Smith for Congress

FEC ID#: C00505685

AF#: 2545

PAYMENT DUE DATE: October 22, 2012

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$7,150

CAROLINE HUNTER, 10-12-12 I NEED to challenge the AF# 2545, COOSOS685 for the following REASON: The FEC LAS BEEN AND IS ASSISTING ME IN THE FILING OF REPORTS AND THERE Should BE & PENALTY. Hay D. Smith



Via First Class Mail

October 17, 2012

Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer Gary Smith for Congress P.O. Box 36287 Albuquerque, NM 87176

C00505685 AF#: 2545

Dear Mr. Smith:

On October 17, 2012, the Commission received your written response ("challenge") which is being reviewed by the Office of Administrative Review. If you have any questions regarding your challenge, please contact this Office on our toll free number (800)424-9530 (press 0, then ext. 1660) or (202)694-1660.

Sincerely,

Dayna C. Brown Reviewing Officer

Office of Administrative Review

**Date:** October 18, 2012

# REFERRAL TO OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW CHALLENGE RECEIVED

AF#: 2545

Committee Name: Gary Smith for Congress

Committee ID#: C00505685

Committee Address (if different than in RTB letter):

Treasurer Name (if different than in RTB finding): N/A

# Attachments:

Copy of RTB Circulation Report, dated September 11, 2012 and RTB Certification, dated September 13, 2012: Previously Forwarded

Attachment #: N/A

Proof of Delivery (to be forwarded at later date if not yet received) (Y/N): Y

Attachment #: 1

Other Relevant Telecoms (Y/N): N

Attachment #: N/A

Original Correspondence Received by RAD in Response to RTB Letter (Y/N): N

Attachment #: N/A

RAD Staff Declaration (Y/N): Y

-2012 July Quarterly Report Prior Notice, dated June 21, 2012.

-Non-Filer Letter, dated July 31, 2012.

-RTB Letter, dated September 13, 2012.

Attachment #: 3

Other RAD Information: (Y/N): Y

-Memo to File, dated September 17, 2012

Attachment#: 4



# **Delivery Notification**

Dear Customer,

This notice serves as proof of delivery for the shipment listed below.

Tracking Number:

1Z WF5 860 A2 9331 531 7

Reference Number(s): RAD, 2545

**NEXT DAY AIR** 

Special Instructions: ADULT SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Shipped/Billed On: 09/20/2012

Delivered On:

09/21/2012 10:23 A.M.

**Delivered To:** 

ALBUQUERQUE, NM, US 87108

Signed By:

SMITH

Location:

RESIDENTIAL

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely, UPS

Tracking results provided by UPS: 09/21/2012 1:25 P.M. ET

# **DECLARATION OF JODI WINSHIP**

- 1. I am the Chief of the Compliance Branch for the Reports Analysis Division of the Federal Election Commission ("Commission"). In my capacity as Chief of the Compliance Branch, I oversee the initial processing of the Administrative Fine Program. I make this declaration based on my personal knowledge and, if called upon as a witness, could and would testify competently to the following matters.
- 2. I hereby certify that documents identified herein are true and accurate copies of the following sent by the Commission to Gary Smith for Congress:
  - A) Prior Notice, dated June 21, 2012, referencing the 2012 July Quarterly Report (sent via electronic mail to: GARY@GARYSMITH2012.COM);
  - B) Non-Filer Letter, dated July 31, 2012, referencing the 2012 July Quarterly Report;
  - C) Reason-to-Believe Letter, dated September 13, 2012 referencing the 2012 July Quarterly Report.
- 3. I hereby certify that I have searched the Commission's public records and find that Gary Smith for Congress has not yet filed the 2012 July Quarterly Report with the Commission.
- 4. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that all relevant telecoms for the matter have been provided. This declaration was executed at Washington, D.C. on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2012.

Jodi Winship

Chief, Compliance Branch Reports Analysis Division Federal Election Commission



# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

# CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES PARTIES AND PACS

June 21, 2012

# **CURRENT REPORT DUE**

	ELOSE OF	REG/CERI &	ir T
REPORT	BOOKS	MAILING DEADLINE	DEADLENE
July Quarterly	06/30/12	07/15/12	07/15/12 2

# REPORTING SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF 2012

REPORT	CLOSE OF	REG./CERT. & A.L. OVERNIGHT MATERIC DEADLINE & C.	DEADERNO STATE
October Quarterly	09/30/12	10/15/12	10/15/12
Pre-General 3	10/17/12	10/22/12	10/25/12
Post-General	11/26/12	12/06/12	12/06/12
Year-End	12/31/12	01/31/13	01/31/13

# Supplemental Filing Information is available:

- Congressional Committees
- Parties and PACs

election must file pre-and post-general election reports. 11 CFR 104.5(a)(2).

A reporting period always begins the day after the closing date of the last report filed. If the committee is new and has not previously filed a report, the first report must cover all activity that occurred before the committee registered up through the close of books for the first report due.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Notice that this filing date falls on a weekend. Filing deadlines are not extended when they fall on nonworking days. Accordingly, reports filed by methods other than Registered, Certified or Overnight Mail, or electronically, must be received before the Commission's (or for committees supporting only Senate candidates, the Secretary of Senate's) close of business on the last business day before the deadline.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Parties and PACs: required only if committee makes contributions or expenditures in connection with the general election during the reporting period. 11 CFR 104.5(c)(1)(ii).

Coagressional Committees: the principal campaign committee of a candidate who participates in the general

# 2012 SUPPLEMENTAL FILING INFORMATION CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES

PLEASE NOTE: The Commission provides reminders of upcoming filing dates as a courtesy to help committees comply with the filing deadlines set forth in the Act and Commission regulations. Committee treasurers must comply with all applicable filing deadlines established by law, and the lack of prior notice does not constitute an excuse for failing to comply with any filing deadline.

### WHO MUST FILE

Principal campaign committees of congressional candidates <sup>1</sup> (including unopposed candidates and candidates whose names do not appear on the ballot) must file Quarterly Reports in 2012. <sup>2</sup>

Campaigns that raise or spend more than \$5,000 for the 2012 election cycle (and thus trigger registration and reporting requirements) must file quarterly reports throughout 2012, even if the candidate plans to retire, withdraws from the race prior to the primary election, loses the primary or drops out of the race prior to the general election. See 11 CFR 104.5(a)(2).

Before a committee can stop filing with the FEC, it must file a termination report with the Commission. See 11 CFR 102.3. Committees must continue to file reports until the Commission notifies them in writing that their termination report has been accepted.

# **METHODS OF FILING REPORTS**

# **Electronic Filing**

Reports filed electronically must be received and validated by the Commission by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the filing deadline. See 11 CFR 104.5(e). See also 11 CFR 104.18 and 100.19.

- Web Page: Electronic Filing Page
- <u>Campaign Guide for Congressional Candidates and Committees (Candidate Guide)</u>, pp. 83-86 [PDF]

# Paper Filing - Meeting the Filing Deadline

Paper Report filing options -- Registered, Certified or Overnight or First Class Mail. See 11 CFR 104.5(e). See also 11 CFR 100.19.

- Web Page: Link to Paper Forms (for downloading and printing)
- Candidate Guide, p. 82 [PDF]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Generally, an individual becomes a candidate for federal office (and thus triggers registration and reporting obligations) when his Ωr her campaign exceeds \$5,000 in either contributions or expenditures. If the campaign has not crossed the \$5,000 threshold, it is not required to file reports. See 11 CFR 100.3(a). See also 11 CFR 104.5(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> If a candidate has more than one authorized committee, the principal campaign committee files a consolidated report on Form 3Z [PDF]. See 11 CFR 104.3(f).

# PRE- AND POST-ELECTION REPORTS

The principal campaign committee of any candidate participating in a 2012 state primary, nominating convention or runoff election -- even if unopposed -- must also file a pre-election report 12 days prior to the primery, nominating convention or runoff. The principal campaign committee of a candidate who participates in the general election must file pre-and post-general election reports. See 11 CFR 104.5(a)(2).

- Web Page: 2012 Congressional Pre-Primary Reporting Dates
- The Record:
  - o FEC Record Blog: Reporting
  - o January 2012 issue [PDF]
- Candidate Guide, pp. 81-82 [PDF]

# **48 HOUR NOTICES OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

The principal campaign committee must file notices if any authorized committees receive any contribution (including in-kind gifts or advances of goods or services; loans from the candidate or other non-bank sources; and guarantees or endorsements of bank loans to the candidate or committee) of \$1,000 or more per source, during the period less than 20 days but more than 48 hours before any election in which the candidate is running. See 11 CFR 104.5(f).

The notices must reach the appropriate federal filing office within 48 hours of the committee's receipt of the contribution(s). Campaign committees that file electronically MUST submit their 48-hour notices electronically. See 11 CFR 104.5(f).

- Web Page: Electronic Filing Page
- Web Page: Link to Paper Forms (for downloading and printing)
- Web Page: Link to Web Form 6 (for online submission)
- Form 6 Fax numbers
  - o Senate campaigns (Secretary of the Senate): (202) 224-1851
  - o House Campaigns (FEC): (202) 219-0174
- Campaign Guide: Candidate Guide, p. 81 [PDF]

# 2012 REPORTING SCHEDULE

- Web Page: 2012 Reporting Dates Page
- The Record:
  - o FEC Record Blog: Reporting
  - o January 2012 issue [PDF]
- Candidate Guide, p. 83 [PDF]

# **COMPLIANCE**

# Treasurer Responsibility

Committee Treasurers are responsible for both the timeliness and the accuracy of all reports. They may be subject to monetury penalties if reports are inaccurate or are not filed on time. See 11 CFR 104.14(d).

- Statement of Policy Regarding Treasurers Subject to Enforcement Proceedings [PDF]
- Candidate Guide, p. 7-9 [PDF]

# **Administrative Fine Program**

Political committees and their treasurers who fail to file their reports on time may be subject to civil money penalties up to \$17,600 (or more for repeat late- and non-filers). See generally, 11 CFR Part 111 Subpart B. See also 11 CFR 111.43.

- Web Page: Administrative Fine Program
- Candidate Guide, pp. 82-83 [PDF]

# DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYIST BUNDLING ACTIVITY

Campaign committees must file <u>FEC Form 3L</u> [PDF] if they receive two or more bundled contributions from lobbyists/registrants or lobbyist/registrant PACs that aggregate in excess of \$16,700 during the applicable reporting period (see page 1 of this notice). See <u>11 CFR</u> 104.22 and 11 CFR 110.17(f).

- The Record: March 2009 issue [PDF]
- Candidate Guide, Appendix F, pp. 155-161 [PDF]

# **IMPORTANT FILING INFORMATION - PAPER FILERS**

In response to the 2001 anthrax threat, the U.S. Postal Service is irradiating mail directed to many federal agencies, including the FEC and the Secretary of the Senate. <sup>4</sup> This process has not only delayed mail delivery, it has also damaged and in some cases destroyed pieces of mail. As a result, committees that file reports with the FEC may want to consider submitting their reports by some means other than U.S. mail. Alternative methods include electronic filing, overnight mail or delivery service, and hand delivery.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Penalties for late- or non-filing of 48-hour notices are based on the amount of contributions not timely disclosed. As a result, these penalties may exceed \$17,600, even for first-time violations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Senate committees should contact the Secretary of the Senate at (202) 224-0322 for more information on filing reports via US mail.

# 2012 SUPPLEMENTAL FILING INFORMATION PACS AND PARTY COMMITTEES

PLEASE NOTE: The Commission provides reminders of upcoming filing dates as a courtesy to help committees comply with the filing deadlines set forth in the Act and Commission regulations. Committee treasurers must comply with all applicable filing deadlines established by law, and the lack of prior notice does not constitute an excuse for failing to comply with any filing deadline.

### WHO MUST FILE

All Party Committees and PACs (Nonconnected Committees and Separate Segregated Funds) must file either quarterly or monthly reports in 2012. See 11 CFR 104.5(c). Before a committee can stop filing with the FEC, it must file a termination report with the Commission. See 11 CFR 102.3. Committees must continue to file reports until the Commission notifies them in writing that their termination report has been accepted.

# METHODS OF FILING REPORTS

# **Electronic Filing**

Reports filed electronically must be received and validated by the Commission by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the filing deadline. See 11 CFR 104.5(e). See also 11 CFR 104.18 and 100.19.

- Web Page: Electronic Filing Page
- Campaign Guide: Nonconnected Committees (Nonconnected), pp. 51-53 [PDF]; Corporations and Labor Organizations (SSF), pp. 49-51 [PDF]; Political Party Committees (Party), pp. 69-71 [PDF].

# Paper Filing -- Meeting the Filing Deadline

Paper report filing options – Registered, Certified or Overnight or First Class Mail. See <u>11 CFR</u> 104.5(e). See also <u>11 CFR</u> 100.19.

- Web Page: Link to Paper Forms (for downloading and printing)
- Campaign Guide: Nonconnected, pp. 47-48 [PDF]; SSF, pp. 45-46 [PDF]; Party, p. 65 [PDF].

# **CHANGE IN FILING FREQUENCY**

Committees able to change their reporting schedule (for example, from monthly to quarterly) who wish to do so must notify the Commission in writing and may change their filing frequency no more than once per calendar year. See 11 CFR 104.5(c).

- Web Page: Filing Frequency by Type of Committee
- Campaign Guide: Nonconnected, p. 51 [PDF]; SSF, p. 49 [PDF]; Party, p. 67 [PDF].

# **2012 REPORTING SCHEDULE**

- Web Page: 2012 Reporting Dutes Page
- The Record:
  - o FEC Record Blog: Reporting
  - o January 2012 issue [PDF]
- Campaign Guide: Noneonnected, pp. 49-51 [PDF]; SSF, pp. 46-48 [PDF]; Party, pp. 67-68 [PDF].

# PRE-ELECTION REPORTING

Quarterly filing committees that make contributions or expenditures (including independent expenditures) in connection with an election must also file a Pre-Election Report, if tire activity was not previously reported. See 11 CFR 104.5(c)(1)(ii).

- Web Page: 2012 Congressional Pre-Primary Reporting Dates Page
- The Record:
  - o FEC Record Blog: Reporting
  - o January 2012 issue [PDF]
- Campaign Guide: Nonconnected, pp. 49-51 [PDF]; SSF, pp. 46-48 [PDF]; Party, pp. 67-68 [PDF].

### **COMPLIANCE**

# **Treasurer Responsibility**

Committee treasurers are responsible for both the timeliness and the accuracy of all reports. They may be subject to monetary penalties if reports are inaccurate or are not filed on time. See 11 CFR 104.14(d).

- Statement of Policy Regarding Treasurers Subject to Enforcement Proceeding [PDF]
- Campaign Guide: Nonconnected, pp. 3-4 [PDF]; SSF, pp. 1-2 [PDF]; Party, pp. 6-7 [PDF].

# **Administrative Fine Program**

Failure to file reports on time may be subject to civil money penalties up to \$17,600 (or more for repeat late- or non-filers). See <u>11 CFR 111.43(b)</u>. See generally, <u>11 CFR Part 111 Subpart B</u>. See also 11 CFR 111.43.

- Web Page: Administrative Fine Program Fage
- Campaign Guide: Nonconnected, pp. 48-49 [PDF]; SSF, p. 46 [PDF]; Party, p. 66 [PDF].

# DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYIST BUNDLING ACTIVITY

Party committees and Leadership PACs must file <u>FEC Form 3L</u> [PDF] if they receive two or more bundled contributions from lobbyists/registrants or lobbyist/registrant PACs that aggregate in excess of \$16,700 during the applicable reporting period (see page 1 of this notice). See 11 CFR 104.22 and 11 CFR 110.17(f).

• The Record: March 2009 issue [PDF]

# 48- AND 24-HOUR REPORTS OF INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES

Any PAC or Party Committee that makes independent expenditures in 2012 may have to disclose this activity within 48- or 24-hours based upon the date and amount of the expenditure.

See 11 CFR 104.4(b)(2) and (c). See generally, 11 CFR 104.4.

- Web Page: State-by-state chart of 2012 48- and 24-hour periods for independent expenditures
- Campaign Guide: <u>Nonconnected, pp. 72-74</u> [PDF]; <u>SSF, pp. 65-67</u> [PDF];
   <u>Party, pp. 87-89</u> [PDF].

These reports are not required when a PAC or Party Committee makes a contribution directly to a candidate.

FOR INFORMATION, CALL: (800) 424-9530 or (202) 694-1100



# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 18463

**RQ-7** 

GARY SMITH, TREASURER GARY SMITH FOR CONGRESS PO BOX 36287 ALBEQUERQUE, NM 871766287

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00505685

REFERENCE: JULY QUARTERLY REPORT 5/17/2012 - 6/30/2012

DEAR TREASURER:

IT HAS COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION THAT YOU MAY HAVE FAILED TO FILE THE ABOVE REFERENCED REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES AS REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ACT, AS AMENDED.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU FILE THIS REPORT IMMEDIATELY WITH THE FUDERAL ELECTION CORNISSION, 999 B STREET, N.W., BASHINETON, D.C. 20468 FOR HORSE CANDIDATES, OR THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE, 232 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510 (MAILING ADDRESS: OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS, P.O. BOX 77578, WASHINGTON, DC 20013-7578), FOR SENATE CANDIDATES. FLEASE NOTE THAT ELECTRONIC FILERS MUST SUBMIT THEIR REPORTE ELECTRONICALLY, AS PER 11 CFR \$104.18. A COPY OF THE ERPORT EXIST ALSO BE FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OR STATE OR EQUIVALENCE STATE OFFICER UNLESS THE STATE IS EXEMPT FROM THE FEDERAL REQUIREMENT TO RECTIVE AND MAINTAIN PAPER COPIES. YOU CAN VERIFY THE COMMISSION'S BEORIPT OF ANY DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY YOUR COMMITTEE ON THE FEC WEBSITE AT WAY, FEC. GOV.

THE FAILURE TO TIMELY FILE THIS REPORT MAY RESULT IN CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES, AN AUDIT OR LEGAL ENFORCEMENT ACTION. THE CIVIL MONEY PENALTY CALCULATION FOR LATE REPORTS DOES NOT INCLUDE A GRACE PERIOD AND BEGINS ON THE DAY FOLLOWING THE DUE DATE FOR THE REPORT. DUE TO HEIGHTENED SECURITY SCREENING MEASURES, DELIVERY OF MAIL BY THE US POSTAL SERVICE MAY BE DELAYED. THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT YOU SUBMIT YOUR REPORT VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY OR COURSER SERVICE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUISTIONS REGARDING THIS MATTER, FLERSE CONTACT MARLENE COLUCCI AT OUR TOLL FREE NUMBER (800)424-9530. OUR DIRECT LOCAL NUMBER IS (202)694-1130.

SINCERERY,

DUBLE CHOLON &

DEBBIE CHACONA

ASSISTANT STAFF SIRECTOR

REPORTS ANALYSIS DIVISION (RAD)



RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT

2012 NOV -6 PM 4: 34

# SENSITIVE

November 6, 2012

# **MEMORANDUM**

To:

The Commission

Through:

Alec Palmer

Staff Director

From:

Patricia C. Orrock

**Chief Compliance Officer** 

Dayna C. Brown

**Reviewing Officer** 

Office of Administrative Review

Subject:

Reviewing Officer Recommendation in AF# 2545 - Gary Smith for

Congress and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer, (C00505685)

The attached Reviewing Officer Recommendation is being circulated on an informational basis. A copy was also sent to the respondents in accordance with 11 C.F.R. § 111.36(f). The respondents may file with the Commission Secretary a written response within 10 days of transmittal of the recommendation.

After the 10 day period, the Reviewing Officer Recommendation and the respondents' written response, if any, will be circulated to the Commission to make a final determination.

Attachment



# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 6, 2012

# REVIEWING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW ("OAR")

AF# 2545 - Gary Smith for Congress and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer (C00505685)

# **Summary of Recommondation**

Make a final determination that the respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and assess a \$990 civil money penalty.

# Reason-to-Believe Background

On September 12, 2012, the Commission found reason to believe ("RTB") that the respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) for failing to file the 2012 July Quarterly Report and made a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty was \$7,150 based on the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R. § 111.43. A letter, dated September 13, 2012, was mailed to the respondents' address of record by the Reports Analysis Division ("RAD") to notify them of the Commission's RTB finding and civil money penalty. The letter was undeliverable at the respondents' post office box address of record; therefore on September 20 a copy of the letter was mailed to an alternate address provided by the Treasurer. It was successfully delivered on September 21, 2012.

# Legal Requirements

The Federal Election Campaign Act ("Act") states that the treasurer of a principal campaign committee of a candidate shall file a report for the period ending June 30 no later than July 15. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(i) and 11 C.F.R. § 104.5(a)(1)(i). Reports sent by certified or registered mail, Priority or Express Mail with delivery confirmation, or by an overnight delivery service with an on-line tracking system must be postmarked or deposited with the mailing service no later than July 15 to be timely filed. Reports sent by first class mail must be received by the close of business on the filing date to be timely filed. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(5), and 11 C.F.R. §§ 100.19(b) and 104.5(e). The treasurer shall be personally responsible for the timely filing of reports. 11 C.F.R. § 104.14(d).

# Respondents' Challenge

On October 17, 2012, the Commission received the written response ("challenge") from the Treasurer, who is also the Candidate, stating that he is challenging because the Commission has been and is assisting him in the filing of the reports and there should be no penalty.

# Analysis

In a letter filed along with an amended 2012 April Quarterly Report on October 25, 2012, the Candidate states that in March 2012, his Campaign Manager quit, taking all of his staff with him, leaving the Candidate the sole representative of the Committee. Commission records

indicate that on April 19, 2012, nearly three months before the July Quarterly Report was due, the Candidate filed an amended Statement of Organization disclosing himself as Treasurer.

The Commission sent the respondents notification of the July Quarterly filing requirement hefore and after the July 15 filing deadline. On June 21, 2012, the Commission sent the Prior Notice for the 2012 July Quarterly Report to "gary@garysmith2012.com," the email address listed on the April 19 Statement of Organization. Additionally, on July 31, 2012, the Commission sent a non-filer notice to their address of record, informing them that they failed to file the July Quarterly Report.

According to RAD telecoms (written records of telephone conversations), in early June the Treasurer spoke with RAD three times for assistance with filing an Amended April Quarterly Report and a Termination Report. In the third conversation with the Reports Analyst, which took place on June 8, 2012, file Analyst walked the Treasurer through how to print the FEC Form 3 from the Commission's website so that be could file a Termination Report. The Treasurer stated that he would call the Analyst the following week for assistance with filling out the Termination Report, however, Commission records indicate that the Treasurer did not call the Commission again until September 20, when he returned the RAD Compliance Analyst's phone call requesting a viable address for the mailing of their July Quarterly Report RTB letter. During this conversation with the Compliance Analyst, the Treasurer (who is also the Candidate), stated that his campaign was over and indicated that he was working on filing the report, but had not finished because he did not know how to use the computer. After providing the Compliance Analyst with a vinble address, he was transferred to his assigned Reports Analyst for further assistance.

During the September 20 conversation with his Reports Analyst, the Treasurer indicated that he did not know he had to file the July Quarterly Report. The Analyst reminded him of their June 8 conversation in which he stated he was going to print copies of the FEC Form 3 and call the Analyst the following week for assistance, but did not do so. Commission records indicate that the Treasurer spoke with the Reports Analyst 14 times between September 20 and October 15 to receive assistance with filing amendments and the October Quarterly Termination Report. Although the Treasurer advised the Analyst in early June, more than a month before the July Quarterly Report was due, that he would need assistance with filing reports, it appears as though he did not follow up with the Analyst, in eernest, to receive this assistance until he was notified of the RTB finding and proposed penalty.

On October 25, the Treasurer filed the October Quarterly Termination Report covering April 1 through September 30, 2012. This report included the April 1 through June 30 July Quarterly coverage dates, resulting in the activity being disclosed 102 days after the July 15 filing deadline.

The Committee did not file the July Quarterly Report before the September 12 RTB finding, therefore an estimated level of activity (\$227,839) was used to calculate the fine. 11 C.F.R § 111.43(d)(2)(l). The October Quarterly Termination Report, including the July Quarterly eoverage dates, was filed on October 25 and is considered not filed for purposes of the civil money penalty calculation. 11 C.F.R § 111.43(e)(1). The report discloses \$1,966 in receipts for the July Quarterly reporting period and \$43,213 in disbursements for the July

Quarterly reporting period, resulting in an actual level of activity of \$45,179. Therefore, using the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R § 111.43(a), for respondents with no previous violations, and the level of activity bracket of \$25,000 - \$49,999.99, the civil money penalty is \$990 x  $[1 + (.25 \times 0)]$  or \$990, reduced from the RTB civil money penalty of \$7,150.

Negligence, inexperience of the treasurer and a committee's failure to know filing dates are included at 11 C.F.R. § 111.35(d) as examples of circumstances that are not considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond the respondents' control. The respondents challenge fails to address any of the three valid grounds for challenging the RTB finding or proposed penalty at 11 C.F.R § 111.35(b). These are: (i) the RTB finding is based on factual errors; and/or (ii) the improper calculation of the civil money penalty; and/or (iii) they used best efforts to file on time but were prevented from doing so by reasonably unforeseen circumstances that were beyond their control and they filed the report no later than 24 hours after the end of these circumstances. Therefore, the Reviewing Officer recommends that the Commission make a finnt determination that the respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and assess a civil money penalty of \$990.

# **OAR Recommendations**

- (1) Adopt the Reviewing Officer recommendation for AF# 2545 involving Gary Smith for Congress and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer, in making the final determination;
- (2) Make a final determination in AF# 2545 that Gary Smith for Congress and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and, based en the actual level of activity discloseri on the July Quarterly Report (\$45,179), assess a civil money penalty of \$990 (reduced from the RTB civil money penalty of \$7,150); and
- (3) Send the appropriate letter.

Reviewing Officer: Dayna C. Brown

### Attachments

Attachment 1 – Challenge Received from Respondents

Attachment 2 - Declaration from RAD:

Attachment 3 - Declaration from OAR

# **DECLARATION OF DAYNA C. BROWN**

- 1. I am the Reviewing Officer in the Office of Administrative Review for the Federal Election Commission ("Commission"). In my capacity as Reviewing Officer, I conduct research with respect to all challenges submitted in accordance with the Administrative Fine program.
- 2. The 2012 July Quarterly Report is due July 15, 2012. Reports sent by first class mail are considered filed on the date of receipt.
- 3. I hereby certify that I have searched the Commission's public records and that the documents identified herein are the true and accurate copies of:
  - a. Pages 1 and 3 of the amended Statement of Organization filed by Priends of Gary Smith and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer. According to the Commission's records, the document was received on April 19, 2012 and lists "gary@garysmith2012.com" as the Committee's email address. Line 8 lists Gary Smith as Treasurer;
  - b. A letter, dated October 15, 2012 from Gary D. Smith. According to Commission records, the letter was received on October 25, 2012; and
  - c. Page 1 of the Summary Page, 1 page of Schedule, 5 pages of Schedule B, and the Commission's Envelope Replacement Page for the 2012 October Quarterly Termination Report filed by Friends of Gary Smith and Gary D. Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer. According to the Commission's records, the report covers the period from April 1 through September 30, 2012, was sent on October 13 via first class mail, and received on October 25, 2012. Schedule A lists two receipts totaling \$1,966.53 on May 14 and June 21, 2012. Schedule B lists 12 disbursements totaling \$43,213.15 on April 6, 12, 21, 24, and 27; May 7, 14, and 20; and June 6 and 7, 2012.
- 4. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed at Washington on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November, 2012.

Dayna C. Brown Reviewing Officer

Office of Administrative Review Federal Election Commission

FEC FORM 1	STATEMENT O ORGANIZATIO		RECEIVED 2012 APR 19 AM 9: 4: EEC MAIL CENTER
1. NAME OF COMMITTEE (In full)	(Check if name Example is changed) over the	e:If typing, type	FE4M5
FRIENDS &	or GARY Smith		
ADDRESS (number and stress	Pla Box 36287	111111	ليبيبيبيب
(Check if address			ليبيبيين
is changed) لسنا	AI, BUDWERQUE:	<u> </u>	M 87176-
	CITY	STA	ITE ZIP CODE
COMMITTEE'S E-MAIL ADD	RESS (Please provide only one e-mail addre		•
(Check if address	bary Boary Sini	the OILZINGS	M. L.
is changed)		1111111	لتسيبنينيي
COMMITTEE'S WEB PAGE	ADDRESS (URL)		
		1.	ر . المحمد المستوات المستوا
(Check if address is changed)	<u> </u>		
	12 2012 NUMBER C0050	<u> </u>	
3. FEC IDENTIFICATION	NUMBER UUUS	2.6.2	
4. IS THIS STATEMENT	NEW (N) OR	AMENDED (A)	
I certify shall I have examine	d this Statement and to the best of my kno	wiedge and belief it is to	e, correct and complete.
Type or Print Name of Treat	war Gary Smith		
Signature of Treasurer	Hay D. Sm	Date Date	64 73 2672
NOTE: Submission of talse, e	roneous, or incomplete information may subject ANY CHANGE IN INFORMATION SHOUL	•	
Office Use Only		r further Information contact dend Election Commission Il Free 800-424-8530 cal 202-694-1100	FEC FORM 1 (Revised 02/2009)

FEC Form 1 (Revise	od 02/2009)	Page 3
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FEC Termination Letter 999 E St, NW Wash., DC 20463 RECEIVED

10-15-2012

2012 OCT 25 PH 12: 01
FEC MAIL CENTER

Friends For Gary Smith C00505685 AF#: 2545

FEC:

This Termination Report IS compelled, necessitated, and accentuated due to NOT having access to electronic filing caused by the following:

Q2 was NOT reported because during March 2012 the campaign imploded by the Campaign Manager acting like a little (he's NOT little) immature 5-yr old, temper tantrum boy AGAIN (he gets huffy and puffy, turns red in the face [the complexion of a tomato], and puffs out his "fish mouth" — he did this weekly, sometimes MORE than weekly), quitting and taking ALL his staff with him. <u>EVERYONE</u> left and I WAS the campaign ALL by myself — from the candidate to the janitor!!

The treasurer, who had possession of the campaign computer at her resistence and/or car, refused, according to the Campaign Manager (which MAY have been a tetal falsehood by the Campaign Manager), to give back and return the campaign computer to the campaign (the Campaign Manager) for a complete month (FEB~MAR). It took the NM State Police to intervene with the treasurer (who WAS apparently caught off guard by knowledge of the computer needing to be returned) to persuade her to turn over the computer 4 hrs later. This ended up being of little value as the computer could NOT be ACCESSED because the treasurer refused to turn over codes to ME, the Campaign Manager, and others in Wash., DC to allow us to be able to use the computer.

The Apr Qtr report HAD to be redone due to misculculations because of NOT having the original electronic files and I being able to make corractions only manually. This abo mused "incorrect" "com on hand" and inflated the "numbers" in general. The remaining Funds were used to repay the candidate and I FORGIVE the rest of my personal remaining outstanding loans of \$75,644.09. I HAVE NO ACCESS to the campaign computer and old files and am filing on PAPER!!

ACOY D. SMITH

FORM 3		SBURSEN Authoritied Comm	MENTS 201	20CT 25 PH 10TH	e Use Only
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	false, enonyous, or incompl	information may	subject the person sig	ning this Report to the p	treaties of 2 U.S.C. §437g.
Office Use Only					FEC FORM 3 (Revised 02/2003)

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(3/2005)

# **Federal Election Commission ENVELOPE REPLACEMENT PAGE FOR INCOMING DOCUMENTS** The FEC atided this page to the end of this filing to indicate how it was received. Date of Receipt **Hand Delivered** Postmarked **USPS First Class Mail USPS** Registered/Certified **Postmarked USPS Priority Mail** Delivery Confirmation™ or Signature Confirmation™ Label Postmarked **USPS Express Mail** Postmark Illegible No Postmark **Shipping Date Overnight Delivery Service (Specify):** Next Business Day Delivery **Date of Receipt** Received from House Records & Registration Office Date of Receipt Received from Senate Public Records Office Date of Receipt Received from Electronic Filing Office Date of Receipt or Postmarked Other (Specify): PREPARER



### VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

November 7, 2012

Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer Gary Smith for Congress P.O. Box 36287 Albuquerque, NM 87176

C00505685 AF#: 2545

Dear Mr. Smith:

On September 12, 2012, the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") found reason to believe ("RTB") that Gary Smith for Congress and you, in official capacity as Treasurer ("respondents"), violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) for failing to file the 2012 12 July Quarterly Report. The Commission also made a prellininary determination that the civil money penalty was \$7,150 based on the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R. § 111.43.

After reviewing the written response and any supplemental information submitted by the Committee and Commission staff, the Reviewing Officer has recommended that the Commission make a final determination in this matter. A copy of the Reviewing Officer's recommendation is attached.

You may file with the Commission Secretary a written response to the recommendation within 10 days of the date of this letter. Your written response should be sent to the Commission Secretary, 999 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20463. As a result of the anthrax thrent in the Washington, DC ama, US Postal Service mail delivery to federal agencies, including the Commission, has been interrupted. Until regular mail delivery resumes, you may also file your written response with the Commission Secretary via facsimite (202-208-3333) or by courier at the same address (if you use an overnight delivery service, please use zip code 20004 instead of zip code 20463). Please include the AF # in your response. Your response may not mise any argements not raised in your original written response or not directly responsive to the Reviewing Officer's recommendation. 11 C.F.R. § 111.36(f). The Commission will then make a final determination in this matter.

Please contact me at the toll free number 800-424-9530 (press 0, then press 1660) or 202-694-1660 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dayna C. Brown Reviewing Officer

Office of Administrative Review

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
Commission Secretary
999 E ST. NW
SECRETARIAT
Wash, D.C. 20463

11-15-12

1 2012 NOV 21 A 11: 26

AF# 2545

I don't HAVE TIME to write a formal letter SO will MAKE bullet replies ONLY.

- The Mission of the FEC IS NOT to penalize the MESSENGER, the disabled, the disadvantaged, the handicapped and the elderly.
- The FEC CAN SET ASIDE (if it so chooses).

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- I <u>ONLY</u> took up this <u>task</u> (of submitting reports) to facilitate (HELP) the FEC because the responsible parties (Campaign Manager and Treasurer) refused to MEET their obligations and commitments (as referred to in Ltr dtd 10-15-12).
- It is in fact the FEC who filed the reports (NOT ME). IF it HAD NOT been for the FEC's assistance (repeatedly) there <u>STILL</u> would BE NO reports. The FEC HELPED ME and told ME what numbers to put where (along with much other information) in order for the reports TO BE completed!
- I only tried <u>TO</u> Right A WRONG caused by others! I wish the FEC would focus <u>your</u> attention on and should go after the responsible party the Campaign MANAGER! They cheated ME and NOW the SAME thing IS happening AGAIN.
- I RAN for office because only wanted to <u>SERVICE</u> my country ONE MORE time only and was taken advantage of by other corrupt individuals! I only tried <u>TO</u> Right A WRONG caused by others!

I would ASK that the FEC SET ASIDE any and <u>ALL</u> fines or penalties. (I've BEEN through enough <u>already</u>)! I <u>used my best efforts</u> to accomplish THIS TASK.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Gary D. Smith

RECEIVED FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION SECRETARIAT



2012 NOV 30 PM 3: 11

SENSITIVE November 30, 2012

### **MEMORANDUM**

To:

The Commission

Through:

Alec Palmer

Staff Director

From:

Patricia C. Orrock PCO

Chief Compliance Officer

Office of Administrative Review

Subject:

Final Determination Recommendation in AF# 2545 - Gary Smith for Congress

and Gary Smith, in his official capacity as Treasurer (C00505685)

On September 12, 2012, the Commission found reason to believe ("RTB") that the respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) for failing to file the 2012 July Quarterly Report and made a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty was \$7,150 based on the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R. § 111.43.

On October 17, 2012, the Commission received their written response ("challenge"). After reviewing the challenge, the Reviewing Officer's recommendation ("ROR") dated November 5, 2012, was forwarded to the Commission, a copy was forwarded to the respondents, and is hereby incorporated by reference. The Reviewing Officer recommended that the Commission make a final determination that they violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and, hased on the actual level of activity disclosed for the July Quarterly reporting period (\$45,179), assess a \$990 civil money penalty (reduced from the RTB civil money penalty of \$7,150) because they submitted no evidence that a factual error was made in the RTB finding, that the penalty was miscalculated at RTB or that they used best efforts to file on time. 11 C.F.R. § 111.35(b).

Within 10 days of transmittal of the recommendation, they may file a written response with the Commission Secretary which may not raise any arguments not raised in their challenge or not directly responsive to the ROR. 11 C.F.R. § 11.36(f).

On November 14, 2012, the Commission received the written response from the Treasurer/Candidate which reiterates the main points raised in the challenge and addressed in the ROR: The Campaign Manager and former Treasurer left the campaign "and refused to meet

their obligations," leaving the Candidate as the sole representative of the Committee. The Candidate filed the report after Commission staff provided repeated assistance, and he requests the civil money penalty be waived.

As discussed in the ROR, the Candidate filed an amended Statement of Organization on April 19, 2012, disclosing himself as Treasurer noarly three months before the July Quarterly Report was due. As Treasurer, he was personally responsible for the timely filing of the July Quarterly Report. 11 C.F.R. § 104.14(d).

Although the Candidate initially informed his RAD Analyst in early June that he would need assistance filing reports, he did not contact the RAD Analyst for this assistance until September 20, after he was notified of the RTB finding and proposed penalty for failing to file the July Quarterly Report. The RAD Analyst then assisted the Candidate with completing sevaral reports, including the October Quarterly Termination Report. The report included the April 1 through June 30 July Quarterly coverage dates and was received on October 25, 102 days late.

It should be noted that the Candidate asserts in his November 14, 2012 written response that he is facing health challenges. While the Reviewing Officer is sympathetic, because these issues were not raised in the challenge and, therefore, are not directly responsive to the Reviewing Officer's recommendation, the Reviewing Officer does not address these issues within this memorandum. 11 C.F.R. § 111.36(f).

The Reviewing Officer, therefore, recommends that the Commission make a final determination that the respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and assess a civil money penalty of \$990.

#### **OAR Recommendations**

- (1) Adopt the Reviewing Officer recommendation for AF# 2545 involving Gary Smith for Congress and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer; in making the final determination;
- (2) Make a final determination in AF# 2545 that Gary Smith for Congress and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and, based on the actual level of activity disclosed on the July Quarterly Report (\$45,179), assess a civil money penalty of \$990 (reduced from the RTB civil money penalty of \$7,150); and
- (3) Send the appropriate letter.

#### Attachment

### BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of	)
	)
Final Determination Recommendation:	) AF 254:
Gary Smith for Congress and Gary	)
Smith, in his official capacity as	)
Treasurer (C00505685)	)

# **CERTIFICATION**

- I, Shawn Woodhead Werth, Secretary and Clerk of the Federal Election Commission, do hereby certify that on December 12, 2012, the Commission decided by a vote of 5-0 to take the following actions in AF# 2545:
  - 1. Adopt the Reviewing Officer recommendation for AF# 2545 involving Gary Smith for Congress and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer, in making the final determination.
  - 2. Make a final determination in AF# 2545 that Gary Smith for Congress and Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and, based on the actual level of activity disclosed on the July Quarterly Report (\$45,179), assess a civil money penalty of \$990 (reduced from the RTB civil money penalty of \$7,150).
  - 3. Send the appropriate letter.

Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, and Walther voted affirmatively for the decision. Commissioner Weintraub did not vote.

Attest:

Shawn Woodhead Werth

Secretary and Clerk of the Commission



December 19, 2012

# VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Gary Smith, in official capacity as Treasurer Gary Smith for Congress P.O. Box 36287 Albuquerque, NM 87176

C00505685 AF#: 2545

Dear Mr. Smith:

On September 12, 2012, the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") found reason to believe ("RTB") that Gary Smith for Congress and you, in your official capacity as Treasurer ("respondents"), violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) for failing to file the 2012 July Quarterly Report. By letter dated September 13, 2012, the Commission sent you notification of the RTB finding that included a civil money penalty calculated at RTB of \$7,150 in accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R. § 111.43. On October 17, 2012, the Office of Administrative Review received your written response, challenging the RTB finding.

The Reviewing Officer reviewed the Commission's RTB finding with its supporting documentation and the written response. Based on this review, the Reviewing Officer recommended that the Commission reduce the RTB civil money penalty because it was calculated on an estimated level of activity, make a final determination that Gary Smith for Congress and you, in your official capacity as Treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and, based on the actual level of activity disclosed on the 2012 July Quarterly Roport fited October 25, 2012 (\$45,179), assess a civil money populty in the amount of \$990 in accordance with 11 C.F.R. § 111.43. The basis for the Reviewing Officer's recommendation was included in the Final Determination Report, a copy of which was sent to you on November 7, 2012.

On November 14, 2012, the Commission received your written response. On December 12, 2012, the Commission adopted the Reviewing Officer's recommendation and made a final determination that Gary Smith for Congress and you, in your official capacity as Treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and based on the level of activity disclosed on the 2012 July Quarterly Report (\$45,179), assessed a civil money penalty of \$990 (reduced from the RTB civil money penalty of \$7,150). It is based on the same factors used to calculate the civil money penalty at RTB except that the astuel minor than the estimated level of activity was used. A copy of the final determination memorendum is attached.

# If You Choose to Appeal the Final Determination and/or Civil Money Penalty

If you choose to appeal the final determination, you should submit a written petition, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, to the district court of the United States for the district in which the committee or treasurer reside, or transact business, requesting that the final determination be modified or set aside. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(C)(iii). Your failure to raise an argument in a timely fashion during the administrative process shall be deemed a waiver of the respondents' right to present such argument in a petition to the district court under 2 U.S.C. § 437g. 11 C.F.R. § 111.38.

# If You Choose To Pay the Civil Money Penalty

If you should decide to pay the civil money penalty, send the enclosed form and payment to the address on page 3 within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

The confidentiality provisions at 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12) no longer apply and this matter is now public. The file will be made a part of the public record pursuant to 11 C.F.R. § 111.42(b). Although the file must be placed on the public record within 30 days from the date of the Commission's notification, this could occur at any time following certification of the Commission's vote.

If you have any questions regarding the payment of the civil money penalty, please contact Rhiannon Magruder on our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (press 0, then ext. 1660) or (202) 694-1660.

On behalf of the Commission,

mor C. H

Caroline C. Hunter

Chair

Attachment

### **ADMINISTRATIVE FINE PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS**

In accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R. § 111.43, the civil money penalty is \$990 for 2012 July Quarterly Report.

This penalty should be paid by check or money order, made payable to the Federal Election Commission. It should be sent by mail to:

Federal Election Commission PO Box 979058 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If you choose to send your payment by courier or overnight delivery, please use this address:

U.S. Bank - Government Lockbox FEC # 979058 1005 Convention Plaza Attn: Government Lockbox, SL-MO-C2GL St. Louis, MO 63101

The form and payment are due within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

# **PAYMENTS BY PERSONAL CHECK**

Personal ehecks will be converted into electronic funds transfers (EFTs). Your account will be electronically debited for the amount on the check, usually within 24 hours, and the debit will appear on your regular statement. We will destroy your original check and keep a copy of it. In case the EFT cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in lieu of the original check. Should the EFT not be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer twice.

### PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THE PORTION BELOW WITH YOUR PAYMENT

FOR: Gary Smith for Congress

FEC ID#: C00505685

AF#: 2545

**PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$990** 

# U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service Debt Collection Programs

(Cross-Servicing Program and Treasury Offset Program)

# Calendar Year 2013 Annual Debt Certification Agreement for Federal Nontax Debts

This Annual Debt Certification Agreement for Federal Nontax Debts (Certification Agreement) is submitted by: (Creditor Agency) Federal Election Commission (FEC)

### Section I: Background

- A. The U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service (FMS), provides debt collection services to Federal agencies that are owed delinquent debt.
- B. Federal agencies are generally required to submit debts that have been delinquent for 180 days to FMS for debt collection services, and may submit debts sooner if the necessary prerequisites are met. See 31 U.S.C. §§ 3711(g) and 3716(c).
- C. Upon submitting debts to FMS for debt collection services, Federal agencies are required to certify to FMS, among other things, that the debts are valid, legally enforceable, there are no bars to collection, and all requisite due process has been completed, as set forth in this Certification Agreement.
- D. The deficitions of terms used in this Certification Agreement are in Attachment A, Definitions of Terms Used in Certification Agreement.

### Section III General Provisions

The Creditor Agency understands and agrees to the following:

- A. Scope. The provisions of this Certification Agreement apply to all Debts submitted by Electronic Transmission on or after the date of the Certification Agreement by the Creditor Agency to FMS for collection through the Cross-Servicing Program and/or the Treasury Offset Program.
- B. Certification Authority. Only an individual with delegated authority to certify a Debt on behalf of the Creditor Agency will submit a Debt to FMS via an Add Record or Update Record. The Creditor Agency will provide a copy of this Certification Agreement to any such individual.

# C. Changes to Debt Information.

- 1. The Creditor Agency understands its obligation to notify FMS: (a) of any change in the amount, validity, or legal enforceability of the Debt; and (b) if the Debt becomes subject to shrumstances that legally preclude or bar collection.
- 2. The Creditor Agency authorizes FMS to Update Records on its behalf, in accordance with criteria established by FMS, for the purpose of edding alias Debtor name information for a Debt certified by the Creditor Agency. Creditor Agency will notify FMS as soon as it learns that any such updates are incorrect.

# **Section III: Debt Certification**

The Creditor Agency understands that by submitting a Debt to FMS via an Add Record or Update Record, the individual submitting the Debt is certifying to FMS, in writing, under penalty of perjury, that, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, the following is true and encreet:

# A. General Prerequisites for Collection.

- 1. Valid Debts. The Creditor Agency has made a final determination that the Debt is valid and legally enforceable in the amount stated, and that the Debt is not subject to any circumstances that legally preclude or bar collection.
- 2. Delinquent Debts. The Debt is delinquent, and the Debt in accordance with any repayment plum agmed to by the Creditor Agency.
- 3. Interest, Penalties, and Administrative Casts. The Creditor Agency has complied with all of the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 31 CFR 901.9, as well as other statutes, regulations, and policies applicable to Creditor Agency's assessment of interest, penalties, and administrative costs on the Debt. The Creditor Agency has provided a written notice to the Debtor explaining the Creditor Agency's requirements concerning the assessment of interest, penalties, and administrative costs.
- 4. **Debtor Disputes.** The Creditor Agency has considered any acd all evidence promented by the Debtor disputing the Creditor Agency's determination about the Debt, and there are no pending appeals of such determination that would preclude collection of the Debt.
- 5. Collection Efforts. The Creditor Agency has made reasonable efforts to obtain payment of the Debt, including, at a minimum, by demanding payment of the Debt.
- 6. Creditor Agency Profile Form. The Creditor Agency Profile Form has been completed by the Creditor Agency and is accurate and up-to-date.
- B. General Prerequisites for Collection by Offset, including Tax Refund Offset. If, in the Creditor Agency Profile Form, the Creditor Agency has authorized FMS to collect the Debt by offsetting Federal and State tax and nontax payments:

- 1. Compliance with Offset Laws. The Creditor Agency has complied with all of the provisions of 31 U.S.C. §§ 3716 and 3720A, 31 CFR Part 285, and the Federal Claims Collection Standards (31 CFR Parts 900-904), as may be amended, as well as other statutes, regulations and policies applicable to the collection of the Debt by offset.
- 2. **Due Process Prerequisites.** At least 60 days prior to the Certification Date, the Creditor Agency has provided, or made a reasonable attempt to provide, in accordance with applicable offset regulations, each Debtor with:
  - a. a written notification, at the Debtor's most current known address, of the nature and the amount of the Debt, the intention of the Creditor Agency to collect the Debt through offset, including offset of Federal and State payments, and an explanation of the rights of the Debtor;
  - b. an opportunity to inspect and copy the records of the Creditor Agency with respect to the Debt;
  - c. an opportunity for review of the Creditor Agency's determination with respect to the Debt, including an opportunity to present evidence that all or part of the Debt is not delinquent or legally enforceable; and
  - d. an opportunity to enter into a written repayment agreement with the Creditor Agency.
- 3. Due Process Prerequisites for Certain Older Dehts. For a Debt outstanding more than ten years on or before December 28, 2009, the Creditor Agency sent the notice described in Section III.B.2.a to the last known address of the Debtor after the Debt was outstanding for more than ten years, and afforded the Debtor the opportunities described in Sections III.B.2.b. II.B.2.d. at that time. This requirement does not apply to any Debt that could be collected by offset without regard to any time limitation prior to December 28, 2009.
- C. Prerequisites for Collection by Federal Salary Offset. If, through a Salary Offset Instruction, the Creditor Agency has authorized FMS to collect the Debt by offsetting Federal salary paymants:
  - 1. Compliance with Federal Salary Offset Laws. The Creditor Agency has complied with all of the provisions of 5 U.S.C. § 5514, 5 CFR §§ 550.1101-1110, and 31 CFR 285.7, as may be amended, as well as other statutes, regulations and policies applicable to collection by salary offset; and
  - 2. Due Process Prerequisites. At least 60 days prior to the Certification Date, the Creditor Agency has provided, or made a reasonable attempt to provide, in accordance with applicable offset regulations, each Debtor with the notification and apportunities required by Sections III.B.2. and IH.B.3., and any other notices, opportunities, or considerations required for Federal salary offset.

- D. Consumer Reporting Agencies. If, in the Creditor Agency Profile Form, the Creditor Agency has authorized FMS to disclose Debts to consumer reporting agencies:
  - 1. Compliance with Consumer Reporting Agency Requirements. The Creditor Agency has complied with all of the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 3711(e) and the Federal Claims Collection Standards, as well as other statutes, regulations, and policies applicable to the reporting of a delinquent Debt to consumer reporting agencies.
  - 2. Notice Prerequisites. At least 60 days prior to the Certification Date, the Creditor Agency provided the Debtor with:
    - a. notification that the Debt is overdue and the Creditor Agency intends to disclose that the Debtor is responsible for the Debt to a consumer reporting agency;
    - b. the specific hyformatium to be disclosed to the consumer reporting agency;
    - c. the Debtor's rights to an explanation of the claim, dispute the information in the Creditor Agency's records about the claim, and an administrative repeal or review of the claim; and
  - 3. Review Prerequisites. Upon the request of a Debtor, the Creditor Agency has provided for a review of the Debtor's claim(s), including an opportunity for reconsideration of the initial decision on the Debt.

### **Section IV: Certification**

By signing below, I certify that I have delegated authority to execute this Certification Agreement on behalf of the head of Creditor Agency and understand this agreement applies to all debts submitted by Electronic Transmission on or after the date of the Certification Agreement to FMS for collection through the Cross-Servicing Program and/or the Treasury Offset Program.

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Signature	
Judy Berning	
Print Name	_
Chief Finance Officer - Actim	
Title	
11/21/2017	
Date .	

# U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service Debt Collection Programs

(Cross-Servicing Program and Treasury Offset Program)

# Annual Debt Certification Agreement for Federal Nontax Debts

### ATTACHMENT A

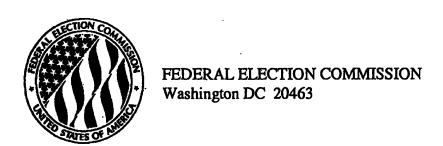
# **Definitions of Terms Used in Certification Agreement**

For the purposes of this Certification Agreement:

- 1. Add Records. "Add Records" means the addition of new Debts, by Electronic Transmission, to the Cross-Servicing Program or TOP, by the Creditor Agency with an instruction by the Creditor Agency directing the Financial Management Service (FMS) to take collection action on the Debt, in accordance with the specification in the FMS Technical Guidance. "Add Records" occurs when the Creditor Agency submits a Debt to FMS unless the Creditor Agency explicitly instructs FMS not to take collection action (in accordance with the specifications of the FMS Technical Guidance). As further specified in the FMS Technical Guidance, "Add Records" can be accomplished either through a batch or manual process.
- 2. <u>Certification Date</u>. "Certification Date" means the date of the Electronic Transmission of the Debt.
- 3. Creditor Agency Profile Form. "Creditor Agency Profile Form" means the document(s) the Creditor Agency completes to provide information to FMS, including, among other things, what tools FMS is authorized to use to collect Debts on behalf of the Creditor Agency, and contact information for the Creditor Agency's personnel who are available to assist FMS with questions related to the transferred Debt. The Creditor Agency Profile Form is an FMS document that FMS sends to agencies for completion.
- 4. Cross Servicing Program. "Cross-Servicing Program" means FMS's debt collection program in which FMS uses a variety of debt collection tools, including TOP, to collect delinquent nontax debts on behalf of Federal agencies.
- 5. <u>Debt</u>. "Debt" means any federal nontax debt, any information about such a debt, any information about the Debtor associated with the debt, and any update, change, or modification to such information.
- 6. **Debtor**. "Debtor" means a person who owes a Debt.
- 7. <u>Debtor Detail Screen</u>. "Debtor Detail Screen" means the screen in the TOP Web Client (as defined in FMS Technical Guidance) on which a Debt can be entered.

- 8. Electronic Transmission. "Electronic Transmission" means any transmission of information to FMS from the Creditor Agency via any form of electronic media including, but not limited to, tapes, diskettes, and en-line access through an Add Records, an Update Records, or a Salary Offset instruction.
- 9. <u>FMS Technical Guidance</u>. "FMS Technical Guidance" means the technical guidance issued by FMS that, among other things, instructs agencies how to Add Records and Update Records. "FMS Technical Guidance" includes:
  - a. Direct Referrals to TOP. For direct referrals to TOP, "FMS Technical Guidance" includes:
    - i. "Treasury Offset Program Agency Guide: The Official Federal Agency Guide to the Treasury Offset Program," version 2010.3, as updated from time-to-time;
    - ii. "Treasury Offset Program: Enhanced Record Layouts Version 3.2 with Definitions, Error Codes and Layout Mapping," as updated from time-to-time;
    - iii. "Integrated Agency Interface File Formats," version 3.30t, as updated from time-to-time:
    - iv. "Treasury Offset Program: The Online Client Agency User Guide," version 1.0, as updated from time-to-time; and
    - v. Any other guidance issued by FMS providing technical specifications for how to refer Debts directly to TOP.
  - b. Referrals to the Craw-Servicing Program. For referrals to the Cross-Servicing Program, "FMS Technical Guidance" includes:
    - i. "Integrated Agency Interface File Format For Cross-Servicing," version 3.30.1, as updated from time-to-time;
    - ii. "XDC FedDebt Referral File Format: Electronic Case Entry for Cross-Servicing," as updated from time-to-time;
    - iii. "FedDebt Online Functionality: Creating a Case Online," revised 12/2010, as updated from time-to-time;
    - iv. "Cross-Servicing Implementation Guide," revised August 2008, as updated from time-to-time; and
    - v. Any other guidacer issued by FMS providing technical spacifications for how to refer Debts to the Cross-Servicing Program.
- 10. Record Type 6. "Record Type 6" means the record layout used for sending data to TOP, and includes information regarding what payments should be excluded from offset.
- 11. Salary Offset Instruction. "Salary Offset Instruction" means the salary bypass indicator used by the Creditor Agency to indicate to TOP whether or not a Debt
  should be collected through the offset of Federal salary payments. As further specified in
  the FMS Technical Guidance:
  - a. No Offset of Federal Salary Payments. To direct that FMS not collect a Debt through the offset of Federal salary payments, the Creditor Agency must:

- i. Transmit the file with a Record Type 6 containing an A in the Action Field and SAL in the Payment Bypass Indicator Field;
- ii. Indicate in the Creditor Agency's Agency Profile (i.e., the default settings established by the Creditor Agency) that Federal salary payments should not be offset:
- iii. Manually check the "salary by-pass" column online through the Debtor Detail Screen; or
- iv. Follow other relevant guidance in the FMS Technical Guidance regarding how to bypass salary payments.
- b. Offset Federal Salary Payments. The Creditor Agency directs FMS to collect a Debt through the offset of Federal salary payments as follows:
  - i. If the Creditor Agency submits a Debt to FMS without a specific indication that the Debt should not be collected through the offset of Federal salary payments (see paragraph 11.a. of this Attachment A, above), the Creditor Agency has indicated that the Debt should be collected through the offset of Federal salary payments;
  - ii. If the Creditor Agency has previously indicated that Federal salary payments not be offset, to indicate that Federal salary payments be offset, the Creditor Agency must:
    - (a) Send a Record Type 6 with a D in the Action Field and SAL in the Payment Bypass Indicator Field;
    - (b) Send a Record Type 6 with a U in the Action Field and SAL in the Payment Bypass Indicator Field; or
    - (c) Indicate in the Creditor Agency's Agency Profile (i.e., the default settings established by the Creditor Agency) that Federal salary payments should be offset; or
  - iii. The Creditor Agency must follow other relevant guidance in the FMS Technical Guidance regarding how to offset Federal salary payments.
- 12. Treasury Offset Program or TOP. "Treasury Offset Program" or "TOP" means the FMS's debt matching and payment offset program that uses payment and debt data received from Federal agencies and States to collect delinquent debt from payments disbursed by FMS and other Federal and State disbursing agencies.
- 13. <u>Undate Records</u>. "Update Records" means any update, change or modification of information about a Debt previously transmitted by the Creditor Agency. Specifically, "Update Records" includes any update, change or modification of information about such a Debt that is submitted to FMS, by Electronic Transmission, through either a batch or manual process, as further specified by the FMS Technical Guidance.



THIS IS THE END OF	ADMINISTRATIVE FINE CASE # 2545	-
DATE SCANNED	5/3/13	
SCANNER NO.	<b>z</b>	
SCAN OPED ATOP	123	

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